



## **Prohibited Camping Ordinance Information Sheet – May 3, 2021**

**WHAT:** The Medford City Council voted to approve the Prohibited Camping Ordinance on Friday, April 2. The ordinance provides clear time, place, and manner regulations regarding sleeping or camping outside.

**WHY:** To address changing case law and address public safety concerns and equitable use of public property, including along the Bear Creek Greenway.

### **ORDINANCE SPECIFICS:**

**Lying/sleeping and camping are prohibited (subsection (5) in the following places:**

- Along Greenways and Prescott Park during fire season (typically May 1 – Sept. 30)
- On playgrounds or sports fields during hours of closure
- Underneath bridges
- Near railroad tracks
- Publicly-owned property not open to the public.
- On streets
- Obstructing sidewalks or entryways to private property

**Structure camping implications (Subsection 4):**

- Structure camping on private property is not restricted by this ordinance
- Structure camping on public property prohibited unless exception applies
- Exception for severe weather events
- Exception for organized-and-approved operations
- Exception for City policy designating locations and circumstances

**24-Hour Rule (Subsection 3):**

- Bedding materials laid out on sidewalks, parks, etc. must be packed up within 24 hours.

For entire code, [click here](#).